High production cost of Rifampicin

@3296. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 156 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th July, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production of Rifampicin involves an additional outgo of foreign exchange to the extent of dollar 59/kg;

(b) whether it is also a fact that import price of Rifampicin is Rs. 150 per kg. and for producing 1 kg. of drug from intermediates $ 209 are being spent;

(c) whether the Phenomenon of over-invoicing and overcharging of price, to the detriment of the T.B. patients, had been going on for the last two years;

(d) what are the approved prices of Rifampicin plus INH capsules and Rifampicin 600 mg. per capsule and what prices are being charged by the companies; and

(e) what steps have been taken to fix the responsibility in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The price of Rifampicin bulk drug was fixed at Rs. 3098 per kg in October 1986 based on the recommendations of BICP and was subsequently reduced to Rs. 3000 per kg in January, 1987 due to fall in prices of intermediates. International prices of bulk drugs and intermediates fluctuate widely from time to time. No specific instance of over invoicing has come to the notice of the Government.

(d) The price fixed under DPCO 1987 for 4 capsules of Rifampicin plus INA (450 mg plus 300 mg) in one case is Rs. 12.01.

(e) In view of the reply given above does not arise.

@Previously Unstarred Question-2726, transferred from the 17th August, 1988.

Examination of representations from Small drugs manufacturing units

3297. SHRI DHARANIDHAR BASUMATARI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) when the examination of the requests of small scale units for exemption under DPCO, 1987 would start and how long it would take to accede to their requests;

(b) what are the current prices of Durabolin, Decadurabolin, Gestanin, Orabolne, Unionzyme tablets and Trienergic, Styptovit Injections;

(c) whether prices of these products are exorbitant and if so what are the reasons for which his Ministry has not so far intervened; and

(d) when the list of drugs under price control would be normally reviewed and whether any institutional arrangements been made for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Examination of requests of small scale units for exemption from price control DPCO, 1987, has already been started and this is a continuous process.

(b) and (c) As per the provisions of DPCO 1987, the manufacturers of non-scheduled medicines are free to revise the prices. However, Govt. is keeping a watch and has intervened wherever found necessary.

(d) Various representations received in this regard have been forwarded to Kelkar Committee for necessary action.

Production and sale of Benzathine Penicillin

3298. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1416 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th May, 1988 and state:

(a) whether his Ministry is monitoring the production of Benzathine Penicillin;

(b) if so, what was the production during the last three years, yearwise of each producer;

(c) what was the price fixed per Kg. of this product under DPCO, 1979 and at what price John Wyeth and Geoffrey Manners were selling it alongwith its present price;

(d) what are the names of the formulations based on this drug being marketed by these two companies alongwith the composition of each;

(e) what was the price fixed for each, the price being charged alongwith the present price;

(f) whether it is a fact that it was obligatory to provide turnover of formulation under DPCO, 1979;

(g) if so, what was the turn-over of each during the last three years, yearwise; and

(h) what is the rate at which recovery was made in respect of each bulk drug and formulation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The price fixed for Benzathme Penicillin G under the provisions of DPCO, 1979 is Rs. 1271 per Kg. and the price charged by M|s. Geoffrey Manners was Rs. 1375|- per Kg.

(d) to (h) Information to the extent available is given in the Statement. (*See* Below).

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of formulation	Price fixed under DCPO, 1979	Price charged by the company	Qnty. sold between 11th April '81 to Oct. 1983
		Rs. ps.	Rs. ps.	
1	Penidure LA 6 BPa/Vial 5'S	8.67	10.65	2865314
2.	Penidure LA 12 BPa/Vial 5'S	15.00	18.65	2689343
3	Penidure AA 24 BPa/Vial 1 vial	5.42	6.57	1193533
4	Penidure AP. 5'S	13.19	16.05	154047

The recorable amount has been worked out w.r.t. net realisation of the companies and the notified price minus percentage commission/discount paid by the companies.

Applications for revision or fixation of prices

3299. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applications for revision of fixation of prices received by Government after the announcement of DPCO, 1987;

(b) what is the number of applications which have been considered and recommended by the BICP;

(c) what is the number of applications which have been rejected or kept unprocessed by the BICP and what are their details; and

(d) what are the details of applications recommended by BICP but lying pending with his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) Price fixation of formulations is a continuous process, Prices of several thousand formulations are controlled under DPCO, 1987, with several hundred drug companies marketing them in different pack sizes. The details required in the question are therefore quite voluminous and are not readily available. The